

## Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SSO-00

NSCE-00 IO-10 EA-10 ACDA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /099 W

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P 301105Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4431

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

UNCLAS LUXEMBOURG 0388

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, LU

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER COMMENTS ON HIS BREAKFAST MEETING WITH  
PRESIDENT

INTERVIEWED BY RADIO-TELEVISION-LUXEMBOURG (RTL) IMMEDIATELY  
AFTER HIS MAY 29 BREAKFAST MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD,  
PRIME MINISTER THORN MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

1. US/NATO: PRESIDENT FORD HAS SUCCESSFULLY CALMED EUROPEAN  
FEARS THAT AMERICAN REVERSES IN INDO-CHINA WOULD LEAD TO A  
DISENGAGEMENT IN WESTERN EUROPE. THE PRESIDENT HAD INSISTED  
THAT NATO IS THE CORNERSTONE OF THE US'S OWN DEFENSE.

2. EC/NATO: A WESTERN EUROPEAN DEFENSE SYSTEM SEPARATE  
FROM NATO IS PRESENTLY UNTHINKABLE. THE EC SHOULD GRADUALLY  
BEGIN TO DISCUSS DEFENSE ISSUES, BUT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC  
INTEGRATION MUST COME FIRST. WESTERN EUROPE SHOULD ASPIRE  
TO BECOME A STRONG SECOND PILLAR OF THE ALLIANCE. THE US  
SHOULD ADMIT THAT THE EC AND NATO ARE COMPLIMENTARY, AND  
THAT THE WESTERN EUROPEANS CAN BE EQUALLY COMMITTED TO BOTH  
ORGANIZATIONS. SINCE THE FOUR EUROPEAN COUNTRIES  
INVOLVED IN THE F-104 REPLACEMENT CONTRACT ARE ALL FULL  
MEMBERS OF NATO, FRANCE WILL HAVE TROUBLE SELLING ITS  
MIRAGE OVER THE FY-16.

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3. GREECE: FRANCE HAS REMAINED LOYAL TO THE POLITICAL OBLIGATIONS OF NATO BUT GREECE MAY HAVE PROBLEMS IN FOLLOWING THE SAME PATH. WHILE NOT OVERLY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF GREECE JOINING THE EC, LUXEMBOURG WILL NOT VETO A GREEK APPLICATION. THE QUESTION OF GREEK MEMBERSHIP WILL BE A KEY ISSUE DURING THORN'S EC PRESIDENCY IN THE PERIOD JANUARY-JUNE 1976.FARKAS

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